Near	Production (000 tonnes)
1999-2000	1375.2
2000-2001	2390.4
2001-2002	1583.0

(c) The main reasons for the decline in the production of oilseeds in Andhra Pradesh during last three years are that drought conditions which prevailed in the State and attack of pests and diseases on some of the oilseeds crops.

(d)To increase the production of oilseeds in the country including Andhra Pradesh, a Centrally Sponsored Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP) is being implemented in various states including Andhra Pradesh. Under the scheme financial assistance is provided on various inputs like production and distribution of seeds, distribution of seed minikits, distribution of improved farm implements, sprinkler sets, rhyzobium culture, micro nutrients etc. in order to motivate the farmers to take up the cultivation of oilseeds on a large scale.

Fall in sale of fertilizers

3141. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the sale of fertilizers had fallen considerably during the Kharif season, due to severe drought experienced in several parts of the country and as a result, the agricultural production is likely to decline; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) The sale of major fertilizers in the country *viz* Urea, Di-ammonium Phosphate (DAP) and Muriate of Potash (MOP) was lower by approximately 6%, 20% and 15% respectively in Kharif, 2002 over the Kharif, 2001 due to drought in serveral parts of the country. As per the First Advance Estimate the production of foodgrains is placed at 90.64 million tonnes during Kharif. ?nno against 11.51 million tonnes during Kharif, 2001.